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Gene & Cody Kirkham

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June 26, 1998

Dear Messrs. Breitenbach and Snow,

It was gratifying to see that the program which this letter concerns is entitled CALFED "Bay Delta." As a child growing up by the an Francisco Bay, the Delta and its wildlife meant a great deal to me. Now, as an adult, I appreciate even more the environment I took for granted years ago.

However, doesn't the proposed project supposed to restore the ecological health of the Delta also siphon off yet more Northern California water in this case from an enlarged Lake Shasta, to farms and cities in the Central and Southern parts of the state? Aren't they overbuilt already? Native Americans' Pitt River land would be flooded once more if this project is OK'ed. Many homes and businesses built close to the Lake's high-water line this year the highest I've seen it in recent memory, would be worthless. Perhaps most far-reaching would be the devastation incurred by the fish, birds, and aquatic life generally. Where went the wild and scenic river guarantee in the California Pacific Resources Code?

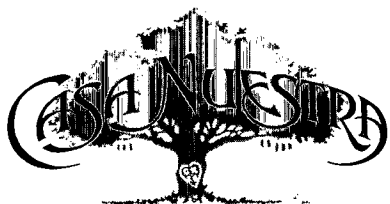
My husband and I are grape farmers. We use well water and rain for irrigation of our vineyards and rejoice in the small wilderness we can provide along the Napa River. As in the river areas involved in the proposed CALFED plan, Native American artifacts abound in our backyard as do many birds and animals rarely seen in more developed parts of the valley. Are the red-legged frogs and spotted owls by Shasta doomed to more and more crowding until they can't survive in what little space is left?

When my father died while fishing on the McCloud River two years ago, I knew at east the river he loved would remain as he know it. Shortly thereafter my husband spotted a lone bald eagle (my father?) soaring downstream. Even your lowest cost option would destroy far too much history to compensate for added homes and agriculture in the Southland.

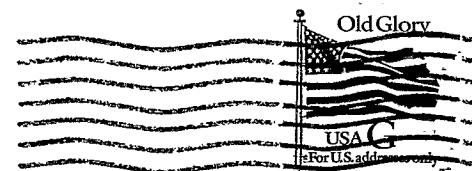
Please reconsider those possible increases in the height of Shasta Dam. I know there is some less drastic solution that focuses on the Bay and Delta alone. Robbing Peter to pay Paul has never worked.

Sincerely,

Cody Gillette Kirkham



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